



EBENEZER
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Annual Report 2019

*Published January 17, 2020
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A Place to Worship God, Build Believers, Reach the Lost

3100 Hecktown Road • Bethlehem, PA 18020
office@aplaceforyou.org • 610.868.5501 • www.aPlaceForYou.org



EBENEZER

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Church Phone: (610) 868-5501
E-mail: Office@APlaceForYou.org
Web Site: www.APlaceForYou.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 / 11:15 am
Sunday School: Children, Youth, College: 10:05 am
Sunday Adult Electives: 10:05 am

Our Purpose:

Worship God with our whole heart
Build believers with the Word of God
Reach the lost with the Good News

Our Vision:

- ...to be a **church** where people are transformed by the truth of God's Word.
- ...to be a **community** of believers unified in worship, prayer, and service.
- ...to be a **fellowship** of people who exercise the love of Christ for one another by our caring, sharing, and encouraging.
- ...to be **reaching arms** for the Gospel through individual evangelism; as well as collectively through our efforts in counseling, church planting and missions.

Our Name Means...

- Ebenezer** – “the Lord is our helper” (I Sam. 7:12)
- Bible** – God's inspired truth to guide us (II Tim. 3:16)
- Fellowship** – a family who cares (John 13:34,35)
- Church** – a people called by God for His glory

Our Ministry Staff

- Dr. Tim Gibson, Senior Pastor
- Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship
- Jeremy Harkins, Worship Pastor
- Mike Notary, Youth Pastor
- Marcus Brunstetter, Lynfield Missionary
- Kristy Hard, Office Assistant
- Heather Hunsberger, Worship Assistant/Youth Assistant
- Robbin Hunsberger, Office Administrator
- Kevin Kritzberger, Facilities Manager
- Jennifer Schanely, Children's Ministry Director
- Laura Sommons, Women's Ministry Coordinator

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His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' Matthew 25:21

Every pastor's mission and dream should be that the church they pastor and oversee is faithful to the Lord. Nowhere in Scripture is the measure of a pastor's success based on numerical growth or even the amount of conversions since the Lord is sovereign over those who are born again (John 3:7-8, 1 Cor 3:6-8). The elders & I determined in 2019 that we would focus on faithfulness to the Lord, encouraging the congregation to strive to live in faithfulness knowing that we will all one day stand before the Lord. We all want to hear "Well done good and faithful servant." While the major emphasis of this year's preaching was from the Gospel of John, a series of expositions from different passages were preached emphasizing faithfulness. Bookmarks were handed out for each congregant with each theme listed and the areas of focus. The themes preached on were the following:

- A Year of Faithfulness. (Matthew 25:14-30)
- Grow in devotion to Christ. (1 Samuel 13:13-14, Acts 13:22)
- Love others. (1 Thess 4:9-10, 2:17-3:5)
- Tell the lost. (2 Cor 5:16-21)
- Give generously. (2 Cor 8:1-8)
- Serve with joy. (1 Cor 12)
- Live in holiness. (Romans 12:1-2)

Sermons:

While it might be more popular to preach topical messages, it is my conviction that simple faithful expositional preaching is the best way to learn the Bible, and grow disciples into mature followers of Christ. The major theme of this year's preaching was from the Gospel of John. This series entitled "That You May Believe" (taken from the purpose statement of John in 20:30-31) began back in January of 2018. Following is a list of the sermons preached in 2019. It was a joy to focus this year on the teaching of Jesus. While the stories are magnificent, the deep teaching of Jesus was wonderful.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) John 9:8-41 – The Progress of Faith | 21) John 14:15-31 – Oh How He Loves You and Me |
| 2) John 10:1-11 – The Parable of the Good Shepherd & His Sheep | 22) John 15:1-8 – Abiding in Christ – Part 1 (The Vine & the Branches) |
| 3) John 10:11-21 – The Good Shepherd | 23) John 15:4-11 – Abiding in Christ – Part 2 (The Key to Christian Living) |
| 4) John 10:19-31 – Understanding Eternal Security | 24) John 15:12-17 – Friends of Jesus |
| 5) John 10:30-42 – Reasons to Believe | 25) John 15:18-16:4a – Hated by the World |
| 6) John 11:1-6 – Understanding Suffering & the Love of God | 26) John 15:26-16:15 – Living a Life of Mission |
| 7) John 11:7-16 – How NOT to Waste Your Life | 27) John 16:16-24 – The Outcome of the Resurrection: Irrevocable Joy |
| 8) John 11:17-27 – The Resurrection & the Life | 28) John 16:25-33 – Overcoming the World |
| 9) John 11:25-44 – The Power of Jesus | 29) John 17:1-5 – The Real Lord's Prayer – Part 1 (Jesus Prays for Himself) |
| 10) John 11:46-57 – Understanding Unbelief | 30) John 17:6-19 – The Real Lord's Prayer – Part 2 (Jesus Prays for His Disciples) |
| 11) John 12:1-11 – Extreme Reactions to Christ | 31) John 17:20-26 – The Real Lord's Prayer – Part 3 (Jesus Prays for the Church) |
| 12) John 12:12-19 – The Passover Lamb Enters Jerusalem | 32) John 18:1-11 – Lord at Thy Death |
| 13) John 12:17-26 – Good News for the Whole World | 33) John 18:12-24 – The Trial & Denial of Jesus |
| 14) John 12:27-36 – Christ Lifted Up | 34) John 18:28-40 – The King of the Jews & King of Heaven |
| 15) John 12:36-50 – Why Don't People Believe in Jesus – The Seriousness of Unbelief | |
| 16) John 13:1-17 – The Love of Jesus & His Example | |
| 17) John 13:18-30 – Journey into the Night | |
| 18) John 13:31-38 – The Cross Changes Everything | |
| 19) John 14:1-11 – Comfort for Troubled Hearts | |
| 20) John 14:12-14 – Greater Works than Jesus | |

Missions Conference: Grace for the World

2 Corinthians 8-9 – Faith Promise Giving for Missions (Glenn Felty, Associate Pastor, Cedar Crest BFC) Luke 4:14-21 – The Time is Now (Luke Raughley, World Impact)

Easter Services:

- Romans 3:21-26 – God Put Forth His Son (Good Friday)
- Acts 2:22-41 – God Raised Him Up (Easter)

Outdoor Service: Ephesians 2:19-22 – The Church: The Mystery & Plan of God
Christmas Series: The Wonder of Christmas

Part 1 - Matthew 1:18-25 – The Miraculous Virgin Birth

Part 2 - Luke 2:1-20 – The Birth of a Savior

Part 3 - Galatians 4:4-5 – The Mystery of God’s Plan

Stand Alone Sermons:

Judges 17:1-13 – Spiritual Syncretism (Pastor Dick Bickings)

Matthew 16:13-20 – The Anatomy of the Church (Pastor Dick Bickings)

Hebrews 2:9-18 – Radical Transformation (Pastor Mike Notary)

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 – The Supreme Way of Love (Pastor Mike Notary)

A Look at 2019:

In addition to Sunday morning, I teach a Bible study and have prayer meeting every Wednesday night. In 2019, we finished a study in the book of James. Then we proceeded to study through 1 & 2 Thessalonians. It was a great time of study and prayer. It is a joy to be with about 30-40 each Wednesday night. I am praying that more will come out and study with us.

I was very active in the Bible Fellowship denominational work this year. I participated in several committees including the Ministerial Convention Committee which organizes a pastoral convention each year in October. The theme of that conference in 2019 was “The Presence of God” with guest speaker Raymond Johnson. I was also on a special committee which is bringing proposals to the BFC conference promoting the need for expository preaching within the denomination. I am also on the Board of Church Extension which oversees our Church Planting ministry.

I also continue to assist 2 church plants, particularly Tim Zuck in Forks Township, PA, and Jason Filbert in Naples, Florida. Our team of men met with these church planters every other month for encouragement and counsel. I was blessed to travel to Naples along with Tim Zuck in March to encourage Jason and his work there.

From April to June, I took approximately 25 young adults through the “Christian Beliefs (20 Basics Every Christian Ought to Know)” class. It was a real joy seeing young 20-year-old students interested in theology.

I was blessed to attend the Shepherd’s Conference in March. The theme of the conference was Faithfulness. It marked the 50th year of John MacArthur’s faithful ministry at Grace Community Church. The conference was truly refreshing and encouraging.

Periodically through the year, I met with Laszlo Onody encouraging him as a pastoral intern. It is a blessing to pour my life into others who will be used of God in ministry. We have plans to intensify his internship in 2020.

I was blessed to participate in several opportunities to lead out in prayer. On Memorial Day weekend, I opened & closed the Memorial Day prayer service for Mayor Don Lasso (member of our church) in Freemansburg. I also was blessed to participate in the Lehigh Valley Prayer service leading out in prayer for the schools & education programs of the LV. Ron Kohl also asked me to open the Conference for the “Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals” in Quakertown with Scripture reading and prayer.

VBS was also a highlight of my year as Julie and I led out in the story room. The theme of VBS was “In the Wild: Amazing Encounters with Jesus.” When the children entered the story room, they were introduced to the person of Jesus. Each morning the children heard stories about the glory of who Jesus is and particularly the Gospel message.

Two youth “swim” parties at our home is always a highlight of the year, as my wife and I get to interact and love on our Junior High and High School kids.

In September I was honored to be a guest speaker on “Today News & Biblical Views” with Pastor Larry Byrd and Rob Fields. I was interviewed about the all-important topic of marriage and divorce.

There is much more that could be written but here are a few highlights that God’s grace permitted in 2019:

- 3 New member classes conducted throughout the year
- Preached through John 10-18, Christmas series
- Taught a “quick” class for Deacons
- Chaired the nominating committee interviewing both elder & deacon candidates
- Led a Kinship Group in my house with approximately 26 in attendance, going through RC Sproul’s lectures on Spiritual

Growth & 1 Thessalonians.

- Performed 3 funerals
- Performed 1 wedding
- Performed many hospital and home visits
- Many meetings with Church members for counseling
- I participated as a member of the board of BFC Church Extension – 6 meetings/year
- I participated as a member of the Transitional Leadership Team (TLT) for Forks Township Church Plant under the direction of Tim Zuck – 4 meetings/year
- I chaired the TLT for Naples, Florida Church Plant under the direction of Jason Filbert – 6 meetings/year
- Over 19 baptism interviews
- Over 19 membership interviews
- Performed 5 child dedications
- Continued to mentor several couples and provided counseling
- Held staff meetings 2 times per month
- Mentored a pastoral intern meeting approximately 2 times per month
- Chaired the Elder meetings once per month
- Led the Bible teaching segment for VBS (including drama) – 5 days
- Attended monthly Welcome Luncheons for newcomers all year
- Attended the BFC ministerial convention & BFC Annual Conference
- Participated in the BFC ministerial convention planning committee
- Attended the Shepherd’s Conference in California
- Participated in every men’s prayer breakfast – 4/year
- Highlighted Miracle Month in December raising \$20,301.

2019 was a wonderful year with incredible blessings from God. My prayer is that Ebenezer BFC was a “faithful” church providing solid Bible teaching, Bible counseling and much more. While we may not be a perfect church, our hope is that the Lord is pleased with us as we continue in the journey of becoming more like Christ. May the Lord bless His Church as we strive to become all that He wants us to become.

Serving Christ,
Tim Gibson
Senior Pastor



As I begin this year's annual report, I want to share with you some thoughts from my personal bible study trek through the Old Testament, and stopping at the book of Psalms, I am reminded that the core of discipleship begins with our view of God:

"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long. Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old." (Psalm 25:4–6, ESV)

I am reminded that most of what we do here as a local church starts and ends with our view of God and His greatness, glory, power, and wisdom. As a pastor, not a day goes by that I do not remember my inadequacies but recognize the power of the Holy Spirit to enable and direct. It is with this truth, that I present to you those things done for the glory of God in 2019.

A Look at 2019:

My main focus is overseeing the church's discipleship programs including: Bible Studies, Sunday School, Adult Electives, Library, Awana, Youth Group, Kinship Groups, etc. Therefore, it was my joy to spend much time mentoring and assisting the leaders of these programs throughout the year. The Lord also graciously used me in the following ways in 2019 as well:

- Developed & launched the church's mobile app for iPhone & Android
- Continued to maintain and develop the church's database
- Led the quarterly men's breakfasts
- Chaired the Lynfield Ministry Committee until Marcus Brunstetter was hired in September
- Taught at VBS, Light In The City, Awana
- Taught Bethel (weekly on Saturdays)
- Taught an Adult Elective (weekly on Sundays)
- Led Men's prayer time (weekly on Saturdays)
- Led a Kinship Group
- Preached four times: March 31, April 21 (Sunrise Service), July 7, July 14
- Oversaw the Salute to Veterans and preached during the program
- Officiated funerals
- Counseled & disciplined many people on a one-on-one basis
- Visited shut-ins in their homes
- Visited people in the hospital
- Helped with rides, moving, and maintenance needs as congregants had need

The glory of God was seen in the Discipleship Ministries the following highlights from 2019:

- Increased involvement in serving the Lynfield Community in South Bethlehem, through a much-needed permanent presence there in hiring Marcus Brunstetter to be our local missionary to Lynfield.
- Continued men's prayer group on Saturday mornings with an average of 7-8 men, encouraging men to be leaders in praying for their families, their church, and their country. These men are passionate about being holy and battling sin.
- Continued growth in our Kinship groups, bringing families together in intimate fellowship.
- Increased growth in our Awana ministry, as new leaders have come onboard.

Children's Ministry

Our Children's Ministry under the direction of Jennifer Schanely continues to blossom and grow. Jenn has worked hard to equip our leaders, teachers, and helpers in everything they need to properly disciple our children. The children's ministry volunteers continue to direct our children toward spiritual growth as children learn the scriptures chronologically in their age appropriate Sunday School (Cross Time) classes, using The Gospel Project curriculum, by memorizing scripture & learning biblical doctrine in the Awana program, and the Bible Memory Program geared for Kindergarten – 8th grade.

Student Ministry

The Student Ministries (HS & MS Youth Groups) continued to grow under the faithful teaching and discipleship of Pastor Mike Notary and his team.

Adult Ministry

The adult ministries sought to equip our adults toward spiritual growth in 2019 through biblical expositional teaching in the Adult Sunday School Classes (Adult Electives), quarterly men's breakfasts, two Thursday morning men's bible studies, Saturday morning men's prayer time and bible studies, various women's bible studies, and our Senior Fellowship.

A Look at 2020:

For 2020, our ongoing goal is to continue to implement our "Families Together" ministry philosophy in every area of discipleship. We desire to not only equip our families in their biblical roles in the home, by helping them understand what the scripture teaches on what we as husbands and fathers, wives and mothers, and children are to become, but to also see how those roles play out in everything that touches our lives.

Please continue to pray and ask the Lord what part you might have in fulfilling our vision for 2020, as we continue to be challenged by our volunteer needs, especially in the children's ministries, and a church wide vision to reach our Bethlehem community. Remember that we are in this together as the living, visible, functioning body of Christ.

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." (Gal 6:9 ESV)

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship



My family and I cannot tell you how much it means to us that we are so well cared for and loved at this church. It is a true blessing to walk through life and bear each other's burdens. As I prepare music, study God's word, and seek the Lord's direction, I am thankful to be entrusted with the responsibility of developing and overseeing the facets of music ministry at this church. To continue to disciple and live life with my brothers and sisters in Christ is truly a gift from God. Thank you for allowing me to minister to the lives of the church family through music and college age ministry!

Music Ministry:

Some of the highlights of music this year were the Christmas and Easter special services. Jennie Flicker and John Huie are so gifted in taking limited time and developing songs with our choir and orchestra that reinforce the message of the gospel so well! Another highlight has been our added singers and musicians. Abe Gibson has re-joined to help on guitar, piano, and vocals as well as Barrie Medina on guitar and Marty Zawarski on vocals. Whether it is playing, singing, sound room or livestream, it takes a village of gifted servants of the Lord to bring all the facets of a Sunday morning together, and for that I am so thankful!

As always it has also been deeply encouraging to finish our Wednesday night practices with a challenge from God's word and time of prayer. On Sunday mornings we meet before both services and continue our scripture reading and prayer focused on God's work being accomplished through our music team and the congregation as a whole, so that God is ultimately glorified through our morning services. My responsibility in leading our congregation in corporate worship is to select songs and arrange them in a way that is honoring and glorifying to God. There are many preferences within the beauty of the diversity of our church. I take a lot of time to pray and study the Word in preparation for the songs we sing in our corporate services. I look for songs that take the focus off of us and place them on the character of who God is in light of His Word. Whether these songs are praise songs or hymns (Ephesians 5:19 & Colossians 3:16), the essence of the music is the message.

This year our church did something a little bit different for our Community Weekend in mid-September. Not only did we have our outdoor worship service on Sunday and movie night on Friday, but we also added a coffee house event on Saturday night. It was a time of fellowship and easy listening to praise music. We were able to give opportunity for some wonderfully talented singers and musicians to share some of their favorites. It turned out to be a great turn-out of our church people as well as many others from the community who came and grew in relationship with each other and grew in understanding what our church is truly about.

I have had the opportunity, on a number of occasions, to visit those who are in the hospital and pray and encourage them in the midst of physical or mental hardship. It blesses and deepens the relationships that I have with our church family and that in turn grows me in my relationship with God.

Our summer is full of local missions in Bethlehem and beyond. Music plays a part in Vacation Bible School week as well as Light In the City (in Lynfield). I am thankful for those leaders who invested themselves in leading the children in music. John Huie and Cheryl Hutchinson do a wonderful job helping lead the music for the kids in VBS. This year Marcus Brunsetter and Jennifer Schanely loved on and led the children in Lynfield for our Light In The City week in July. These outreaches cultivated relationships and planted many gospel seeds in the lives of the children and their families.

In addition to these summer missions, I was able to participate in my third mission trip to the Dominican Republic in the beginning of July. I had the opportunity to do a worship workshop with those who serve in music in the church of Consuelo as well as help lead an outreach concert at the end of the week. It was a rich time of sharing testimonies of how God's power moves in their lives and how music is the gateway to express the power and greatness of our God.

I have had the joy and privilege of leading in the annual Conference and Pastoral Ministerium at Pinebrook. The BFC Board of Youth and Young Adults (BYYA) is a group I have been a part of for over two years now to continue to plan ways to minister to our young people with other leaders in the Bible Fellowship Denomination. It was a blessing to teach the Sparks and TNT's in Awana throughout the year as we walked through understanding the basics of the Bible.

College Ministry:

I wanted to simply say thank you to the church family for entrusting your children to Lindsay and my care. The college years are a crucial and formative season in the lives of young people. We are deeply grateful to be given the opportunity to walk through life with them and help them evaluate their identity in Christ.

The focus of college-age shepherding is to continue to make disciples. This is done by taking advantage of the time throughout the year to be intentional in their lives, mutually challenge each other in God's Word, and develop goals to help them grow. In 2019 the focus continues to be growing in relationship with each other and study of God's word. I have truly been overjoyed at what God is doing in the individual lives of these young people. College ministry has its challenges being that some are out of state and regular get-togethers are not possible, but we try to connect with those who can make the time!

One of our regular meetings takes place on Sunday mornings in the college-age Sunday School Class @ 10:05 am. Dan Trafford continues to do a tremendous job teaching. When we ended John and Galatians, after the first three months of 2019, Dan, myself, and the addition of Abe Gibson taught through the books of Philippians, 1 Thessalonians, and we are currently going through 2 Thessalonians. As we studied through the life of Jesus in John and moved our way through the call of the believers in the church through the epistles, the discussion has been rich and helping us have a spring-board of further connection outside of the church services. This year over 30 college-age young adults are being ministered to whether through one-on-one meetings, or text, or email. The purpose is to be a source of help, support and prayer in their personal walk with Christ. Please pray for these young men and women as they seek the Lord in this season of their lives.

Veray Darby and Seth Freeman are two young people in our church who were married in August, it was a blessing to be able to officiate their big day! In addition to officiating a wedding this summer, there were other wonderful times of community with the college age. A drive-in movie night at Becker's Drive-in, in June and an Iron Pigs game in July cultivated good conversation and community. In September Max and Jen Whylings opened up their home for meals and fellowship for a college age kinship. It later started to dwindle in size and the focus moved more towards a Halloween outreach and a Christmas meal and get-together. With the Halloween outreach we had roughly 10 students come out and interact with hundreds of families and their kids in our neighborhood. This year the annual Christmas party was hosted at our home where 25 young people, in addition to our family, attended. It was a great time of sharing and fellowship!

One of the most important areas to grow in is continuing to meet each young person where they are. Helping young people continue to understand the deep truths of God's Word, how to thrive in the body of Christ, and love one another and our neighbors as ourselves (Matt. 22:34-40). These three goals are what Lindsay and I want to continue to help these young people understand and embrace.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeremy Harkins,
Worship Pastor



Vision:

We are committed to challenging youth to embrace the necessity of the church in their life while also challenging the church to embrace the necessity of the youth in its life. The youth are not simply the future of the church, but instead, a part of the church today. Because of this, our vision is that youth would be united with the church. Youth should be growing in Biblical understanding alongside each other and the church congregation. Families should be encouraging spiritual growth together. Youth should be serving with Christian brothers and sisters in all stages of life. Through all these things youth are challenged to grow in their relationship with Christ, the involvement of their community, and living out the profession of their faith.

Core Values:

- 1) *Youth Participation in the Broader Church* - youth should not simply attend youth group alone
- 2) *Parental Participation in Their Child's Spiritual Growth* - Deut. 6 calls parents to be their primary discipleship influence
- 3) *Spiritual Discipleship* – this happens through varied relationships between parents, youth leaders, and peers
- 4) *Community Growth* – we are never called to grow in isolation, iron sharpens iron
- 5) *Equipping Youth and Parents* – we are focused on spiritually equipping youth and parents, not simply entertaining
- 6) *The Centrality of the Gospel in All Things* – all teaching should reflect and proclaim the grace of Christ and our need for Him
- 7) *A Missional Focus* – theological understanding and exposure is important but it should also move us to action as we become the hands and feet of Christ to a broken world

Discipleship Opportunities:

Weekly MERGE Ministry Meetings: Every Tuesday night (excluding the 1st Tues. of the month) youth gather for our regularly scheduled MERGE Ministry. During this time, we participate in a gathering game or activity, transition to a time of musical worship, and then a time of expositional preaching from God's Word. We end the evening in breakout growth groups in order to provide a time of discussion and reflection.

Monthly Growth Groups: The first Tuesday of each month are Growth Group Nights for MERGE Ministry. Our growth groups are broken down by gender and grade. Volunteer leaders are assigned a growth group that they follow through MS or HS. We have seen many blessings in our youth through building lasting relationships with their growth group leaders.

Regular Youth Staff Dinners: Jenn and I have continued meeting with our volunteer youth staff throughout the year in order to encourage, challenge, and grow in faith together. We have seen the benefit of spending time together as we pray for the youth, discuss future studies, and plan for upcoming events.

Annual Youth Staff Retreat: We were blessed to be able to participate in our third Youth Staff Retreat this fall at my family's cabin in Laporte, PA. It was a wonderful time of stepping away from the busyness of life in order to slow down, get to know more about each other's stories, and pray for our ministry. This year we looked at Paul Tripp's book, *Forever*, as we were challenged to live with an eternal perspective.

Study Opportunities:

Jonah Series: We kicked off 2019 studying the book of Jonah. The unifying theme of the study was "Grace for the Graceless." Many studies focus on Jonah's deliverance through a "great fish," and much time has been spent debating the "scientific" validity of such an event. Unfortunately, this draws our attention away from a much more fantastic story about a loving and abundantly gracious God. As we dove into the book of Jonah our prayer was that God would open our eyes to the deep truths about God's love and grace. The story of Jonah is really a story about God. The story of Jonah is a picture of a much greater story to come. The story of Jonah is all about grace for the graceless.

Hebrews Series: This study will take us through the remainder of the school year. The central theme of the study is "Placing Christ Upon the Throne." The greatest temptation in all our lives is to remove Christ from His throne and insert ourselves. Satan's temptation in the Garden suggested that we "would be like God" and we've struggled ever since. The author of Hebrews goes to great lengths to prove Christ's superiority over all things while also challenging us to continue to keep Christ in His position as Lord of our Life. As we have engaged the book of Hebrews we have been challenged to "place Christ upon the throne" of our lives. We must surrender all that we hold in higher regard, humble ourselves of our pride and arrogance, and embrace Christ as Lord.

The Gospel Project: Our Sunday School hour continues to utilize the Gospel Project resources provided by the church while taking an occasional week to focus on specific topics in Scripture. Themes addressed this year were Out of Egypt, Into the Promised Land, A King-

dom Provided, and A Nation Divided. It has been a great study of the big story of God and His people.

Events:

SnoGlo: This winter we took 31 youth and 10 leaders to Pinebrook for the annual BFC SnoGlo retreat weekend. The weekend's theme was "Follow Me." Youth were challenged to consider what being a disciple of Christ means in our lives.

Spring Retreat: In the spring we took 31 youth and 10 leaders to Three Springs Farm in Morris, PA for our annual Spring Retreat. This year's theme was "Prayer Works" which focused on the spiritual discipline of prayer in our lives. We built the theme around the prayer acronym "ACTS" as we studied prayers of adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication that are found throughout Scripture. Youth participated in worship, study, and small group discussions. Our time together provided great vulnerability, fellowship, and a personal challenge to live lives of prayer.

VBS: This summer many of our HS and MS youth served during our VBS week. Many participated in the skits, music, and preparing/providing snacks and drinks to the children.

Light In the City: The week following our VBS program at EBFC we had an opportunity to take an adapted version of the VBS program to the Lynfield Community in South Bethlehem. Once again our MS and HS youth helped "staff" this program. We ended the week with a community BBQ, outdoor games, a bounce house, and a Gospel presentation to the community.

Dominican Republic Trip: 10 youth participated in EBFC's mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Pat and Carol Barry and Andy Brimer led the trip which allowed youth to participate in service projects and evangelism in the towns of --Consuelo and Consuelito.

Run for the Children: Youth helped as course guides, refreshment coordinators, clean-up crew members, and runners. And of course, they provided their youthful volume and enthusiasm as they cheered on race participants. Once again, we won the award for most total participants who were serving or running in the event.

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party: Youth helped coordinate our annual EBFC packing party this year. They provided items for these shoeboxes by contributing items from 4 different categories over a 4-week span at weekly MERGE meetings. We were able to collect and pack 681 boxes to be sent overseas with the message of the hope we find in Christ.

Statistics:

- Regular Youth Participants in MERGE Ministry: 50-60 students
- Volunteer Youth Staff Members: 8 Males and 6 Females

Male Leaders:	Female Leaders:
Kyle Ebel	Heather Ebel
Randy Shelly	Beth Smith
Bobby Guadagnino	Heidi Meeks
Swannie Griffin	Heather Hunsburger
Josh Gummo	Mila Gummo
Dave Lissy	Jenn Notary
Henri Darby	
Chris Jones	
- MS and HS Sunday School Volunteer Teachers: 5 adults: 4 Males and 2 Females

Male Teachers:	Female Teacher:
Tom Galloway	Suzi Hardy
Pat Barry	Heather Ebel
Shawn Sommons	
Swannie Griffin	

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Notary,
Youth Pastor



Lynfield Missionary—Marcus Brunstetter

Ministry Staff



It is a blessing to be a part of the ministry that is happening in the Lynfield Community. I have been involved as a volunteer in the past, and since September am now employed as Ebenezer's Lynfield Missionary. There have already been various ways to get into the community and work with those there:

- We held bi-weekly services at the Community Center until June of 2019, taking a break until January of 2020.
- This past summer we hosted the "Light In the City" VBS program for children and, though it was very hot, it was a blessing to be involved and show those children the love of Christ.
- I have been doing a bible study at the Center and will be continuing to hold it on Thursdays.
- Some from the community have been attending services at Ebenezer and have been very encouraged and felt welcomed.
- I was able to attend both their Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations and was able to share the Gospel.

Future plans include presenting the Sermon Series "What is the Church" at Sunday services held once per month January, February and March 2020. Then in April we'll begin bi-weekly services and will be preaching through Ephesians.

We will also be having "Light In the City" again this summer and will also be working to host either the Candy Carnival or another fall activity.

If you are interested in learning more about Lynfield or want to help in any way, please feel free to contact me!

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcus Brunstetter, Lynfield Missionary

Office Assistant—Kristy Hard

Ministry Staff



I cannot believe it has already been a year since I have joined the staff! It has been a wonderful blessing to be a part of the office team at our church. We have made significant changes in this past year in moving from a paper based way of communicating to a digital format. We have also implemented changes in the ways we publish the email newsletter and other digital communication we already had established.

My primary responsibilities are to assist with re-stocking the sanctuary and conference room, logging attendance, and helping with office tasks such as the newsletter, Facebook page, website, mailings, reports, the online sermon outline, and the directory. I have also begun the process of helping with background checks for our staff and volunteers. I am so grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve here, and have enjoyed building relationships with the other staff and our congregation. I look forward to seeing the Lord grow the ministry here at Ebenezer through 2020!

For His glory,
Kristy Hard



It has been my pleasure to serve as the Office Administrator for 15 years now! I am grateful for a wonderful work environment, and love helping congregants & visitors throughout the day.

General responsibilities include: reception, correspondence, newsletter, bulletin, graphic design, publicity, advertising, room reservations, church sign, literature racks, permanent records, database admin, web site admin, electronic forms & registration, copier & office equipment admin, phone system admin, online calendar admin, check writing, assisting the Senior Pastor, HR support, Prayer Requests.

2019 Highlights:

- Updated Email Newsletter appearance with more graphics
- Made minor updates to website design
- Decluttered Foyer
- Changed from paper sign-up forms in foyer to digital sign-up forms available everywhere
- Changed from paper posters in foyer to digital slideshow in foyer
- Made “Connection Card” available in pews and digitally (eliminated 3 other cards we were using)
- Assisted with Mobile App look & feel
- Changed how Events on website are displayed so they also display well in the mobile app
- Started sending prayer requests out as notifications to mobile app users (in addition to sending emails to the existing list)
- Assisted with Master Plan evaluation (office area)
- Changed Advertising Venues:
 - ◇ At the end of 2019 we discontinued sending postcards to new movers in the area
 - ◇ Instead we started advertising in the golf course guides of 3 local courses.
 - ◇ In the beginning of 2020 we started our subscription with “TrueLife.org” which provides our congregation with invite cards to hand out, and videos to embed on our website. The videos answer some of life’s tough questions: www.aplaceforyou.org/questions.

Projects for 2020:

- Major website redesign (same information; better look)
- Just started fielding & scheduling Requests for Counseling in January 2020 in coordination with this new ministry. May need to refine the process.
- Continue to integrate TrueLife.org resources into website and church
- Looking forward to new outdoor Church Signs this year. Digital content will be updated by the office staff.

A HUGE thanks to Kristy Hard who works tirelessly to assist with everything in the office and has enabled us to take on an increased workload this past year. She is a pleasure to work with!

I also want to thank our volunteers who have helped in the office this past year! Norma Hall (wedding co-coordinator), Lois Favere (wedding co-coordinator), Kim White (web site), Mark Hardy (tech support), Kirsten Boyle (bulletin stuffing), and Logan Hicks (bulletin stuffing).

Respectfully Submitted,
Robbin Hunsberger, Office Administrator

Worship & Youth Assistant—Heather Hunsberger

Ministry Staff



Worship Ministry

I enjoy supporting this ministry so much in the many administrative needs. And I am also blessed to have the privilege of serving on the worship team. Worship ministry is going strong. Praise the Lord, we have a strong rotation of people on the worship team and sound room crew. It is such a joy to minister with such Godly, humble people who consider it a privilege to serve the Lord with the gifts and talents God has blessed them with.

Youth Ministry

I enjoy supporting the youth ministry administratively so much. It is exciting to organize logistics for our retreats, events, and trips as well as help coordinate details for our weekly youth group meetings. I try to keep us as organized as possible and communicate with parents as much as possible too. I also have the privilege of leading the 10-12th grade girls' growth group! It is a joy to mentor these girls and help them grow in their relationship with the Lord. We have so many beautiful, vibrant students in our Ebenezer family, it is a joy to be a part of their lives! We have approximately 60 students involved in the youth ministry. I'm excited to see all the Lord has in store for them throughout this next year!

With love and joy for our Lord!
Heather Hunsberger

Facilities Manager—Kevin Kritzberger

Ministry Staff



It truly is a blessing to work here at Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church and to work alongside our partners in ministry, Bethlehem Christian School. To be able to see the students and staff day in and day out is amazing.

This year we had a lot of capital improvements done to our campus including the foyer renovation, new hallway lighting and many outside improvements. We also continued to repaint many areas in the building. For a full list, please see the Property Report.

I would like to thank the many volunteers who so graciously gave of their time to serve their Lord. This year we had 13 people serving which averaged about 16 hours per week. I also want to thank those of you who have volunteered to take care of the flower gardens through the "adopt-a-flower bed" program. They looked beautiful and added a lot of color to the outside. What an awesome display of God's talent being put to good use. I also want to take the time to thank our newly formed Aesthetics Team for helping to make decisions on the appearance of our church. Countless hours have gone into this area so far and I look forward to working with them as we continue to look for ways to enhance our church both inside and out.

Lastly, I want to thank the staff and the congregation for your support during this year and again it is my desire to serve you faithfully and diligently in my role here at EBFC. If you have any questions or concerns or would like to volunteer please feel free to contact me.

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:14)

For His Glory,
Kevin Kritzberger

Children's Ministry Director—Jennifer Schanely

Ministry Staff



It has been a joy to serve as the Children's Ministry Director at Ebenezer! Children's ministry exists to partner with parents to lay a strong Biblical foundation, and love of Jesus Christ in the lives of our children. I'm so grateful for the amazing team of people God has blessed us with as we have approximately 100 volunteers who serve year-round! I'm especially thankful for some ladies who coordinate various aspects of children's ministry which includes Sharon Kritzberger, Nursery Coordinator; Debbie Flanagan, Early Childhood Coordinator (ages 2-3); Julie Gibson, Awana Coordinator; and Cindy Lasso, VBS Coordinator.

Here are some of the highlights from this past year.

Awana - AWANA stands for "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed," and that is our goal each Wednesday night. We want to teach children to be obedient and confident followers of Christ. AWANA meets Wednesday nights during the school year (September-May) from 6:30-8:00 pm. The program is for children ages 3 through 5th grade. We average 60-70 kids each week in AWANA, and God has provided us with approximately 30 volunteers. Our Awana leadership team is comprised of Julie Gibson, Awana Commander; Pam Boyle, Cubbies Leader (preschool age children); Jennifer Schanely, Sparks Leader (grades K-2nd); and Pastor Dick T&T Leader (grades 3rd-5th). The kids in AWANA will memorize and recite approximately 2,000 verses this year. Praise the Lord! We are grateful to the elders of Ebenezer for teaching the children each Wednesday night. This is done on a rotating schedule and is a wonderful opportunity for the kids to not only hear the Word of God taught, but to get to know the Elders on a more personal level. One change we are making this winter is to use a team of teachers specifically for the Sparks children to teach a curriculum that corresponds to their lesson books. This team is comprised of Travis Schanely, Babe Fonterosa, Pastor Dick, Phil Norris, and myself. We couldn't continue to do this program without our amazing children's ministry volunteers and their efforts to love and guide the children in truth.

Background Checks, Policies and Procedures, and Safety – We at Ebenezer have been called to care for our children and to honor the name of Christ. To this end, we have policies in place which have been developed to ensure a safe, loving environment where the Lord Jesus Christ is glorified and enjoyed by all His people. This year I revised the policies and procedures handbook for children's ministry volunteers and also updated our website. In September and October I met with all of our children's ministry volunteers to hand out the new policy manuals, and also gave a mandated reporter training session. As a part of that meeting Blake Kuntz, the head of security at Ebenezer, also did a security training session for our volunteers. CPR training was also offered to our children's ministry volunteers, and 12 members and attenders of Ebenezer took that training this fall. In November of this year, I was blessed to hand over the job of background checks to Kristy Hard. She will be following up with volunteers whose clearances need to be renewed.

Bible Memory Program - The Bible Memory Program's goal is to encourage and motivate students in Kindergarten through eighth grade to memorize the Word of God so that they will carry it with them the rest of their lives. Lori Bernhardt coordinates the program which took place January 20 through May 12, 2019. Twenty-four children from fifteen families successfully completed the Bible Memory Program. The children were able to choose from a \$35 Christianbook.com gift card or a \$70 partial camp scholarship for their award. Twelve of the children chose the CBD gift card, and twelve choose the \$70 camp scholarship. Nine of the children participating earned an extra bonus (\$10 Christianbook.com gift card) by memorizing the books of the Bible and reciting them to us. Praise God for two 8th grade students who were recognized for completing the program from kindergarten through 8th grade. They memorized over 400 verses! They received an extra \$10 Christianbook.com award.

Crosstime Sunday School and Children's Church - We continue using the "Gospel Project" material by LifeWay on Sunday mornings for Cross Time Sunday School and Children's Church. The Gospel Project takes the kids on a three year, Christ-centered, chronological journey from Genesis to Revelation. We are currently studying how God's people were restored to their land and how they repented (Ezra and Nehemiah). Children receive Bible story cards each week that remind them and their parents of the Bible story point, Big Picture Question, Christ Connection, and Key Passage. I also send out a weekly email update and Facebook post with the lesson summary so that families can talk about the lesson together. There are currently around 60-70 children who come on Sunday mornings for nursery-5th grade classes. I am so thankful to have a team of dedicated teachers and assistants who come prepared each week willing to serve and teach. This fall we said goodbye to the Waltenbaugh family who had been faithfully teaching for many years. Praise God we have some new teachers who stepped in this year – Steve McDaniel, and Babe Fonterosa. Cindy Lasso, Angela Hoy, and Eric and Karen Stinson were added as new teachers' assistants. In Children's Church we welcomed Victoria Stinson and Clarisse Vyizigiro as additional assistants. The Children's Church program provides regular classes for children ages 4-Kindergarten during the sermon portion of the 2nd service. We normally have 12-15 children who attend Children's Church.

Nursery - The Nursery is a vital ministry at Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church. Our purpose is to provide a safe, fun, and loving environment, where we introduce God's love to the youngest in our children's ministry (age 0-2). The nursery is available for much more than just during Sunday worship. We provide childcare for many different bible studies, programs and events throughout the year. It takes many volunteers to have a successful ministry like nursery. I am so thankful for the willing volunteers who help month after month to be a blessing to our little ones. This fall the nursery was newly painted thanks to Kevin Kritzberger and Gary Walleisa. New rocking chairs and a few new toys were also added.

Victory Valley Camp - Victory Valley is our BFC church camp. The ministry at Victory Valley provides opportunities for children to hear God's Word in God's creation through Godly role-models. We sent 16 kids to Victory Valley for the Winter Blast weekend retreat last February. Pastor Dick and I took turns driving 12 children to the Day Camp in August, and a few students spent the week at their overnight camp. We're gearing up for this year's Winter Blast on Feb 7th-9th where kids will be learning about replacing our old sinful/prideful lifestyle with a new Christ-like lifestyle.

Vacation Bible School - Planning for our June VBS begins in January! Cindy Lasso and Charity Roth do a huge amount of work organizing the many facets of VBS. I am so thankful for their leadership and the efforts of the many adult and teen volunteers who are a part of VBS! We had nearly 100 volunteers this year and used every one of them to serve the 170 children who attended! We are blessed to have many children attend VBS who don't normally come to Ebenezer. Our hope is that they will have an opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel. We also desire to be a welcoming church so that families coming in to VBS may desire to come back and join us on a Sunday morning. Our VBS concludes with a celebration night to share what the children learned, and the gospel is shared as well. Stay tuned for this year's VBS scheduled for June 22-26 where kids will be learning about Jesus – Our Strong Foundation!

For His Glory,
Jennifer Schanely, Children's Ministry Director

Women's Ministry Coordinator—Laura Sommons

Ministry Staff



Oh how Jesus longs for us women to come to the well. The well reveals who we are, what we need, and what we are called to do when living water has been poured into our lives. I love the many invitations in scripture to come to Jesus. That is my heart for the women here at this church, that they would just want more of Him and respond to his invitation to know Him deeply. It is my privilege to serve here as your Women's Ministry Coordinator. It is a privilege to pour out the love of Jesus onto the lives of the women of this church. I am humbled at what the Lord continues to reveal about Himself and teach me as I lead here. Leading is hard, and this year was no exception. God continues to stretch me and grow me in this role. I am so very thankful for the women on this team and the heart they have for all of you. We love studying the word together and fellowshiping together.

Current Leadership Team:

- Women's Ministry Leader: Laura Sommons (staff position)
- Worship Coordinator: Alyssa Nye
- Treasurer: Cindy Lasso
- Secretary: Debbi Flanagan
- Hospitality: Linda Visco (leader), Debbi Flanagan
- Retreat Planning Team: Linda Visco (Coordinator), Alyssa Nye, Debbi Flanagan, Cindy Lasso, Lois Favere
- MOPS Coordinators: Laura Sommons
- Team Member: Carol Barry
- Welcome to the Well Leaders: Linda Visco, Anita Friend, Karen Coldren
- Bible Study Facilitators: Laura Sommons, Robin Laudenslager, Diane Johnson, Barb Tinker

Well Fed:

Bible Studies – In 2019, we offered a variety of studies to help meet all the different needs of women here and outside the church. It is a joy to lead studies and I am thankful for Robin Laudenslager, Diane Johnson, and Barb Tinker who led this past year as well. I would love to see more women from our church get involved in Bible Studies. We offered something different this past fall when we offered the same study in the morning and the evening. One of our biggest needs is childcare for the moms who would like to come to studies. If you have the time or would consider being a blessing in this capacity, this would be a wonderful addition to our Bible study needs. I am very thankful for Charity Roth and Moriah Henley who helped on Tuesday evenings. Our studies for 2019 were:

- Jan-April: I AM Study
- Jan- April: James McDonald Study
- Fall: I Peter by Jen Wilkin am/pm
- Fall/Winter: James Wednesday Mornings

Well Encouraged: God does not desire for us to walk this journey alone, but to be an encouragement by pouring out the love of Christ onto others. We love to fellowship with one another as women. “Welcome to the Well” gatherings have made a huge impact on the lives of the women of our church. We have seen deeper connections made with one another and have been able to move into each other’s lives in a more real way. We have not only seen a desire for deeper connections, but we have seen the benefits of the connections made. I encourage you for this coming year that you take advantage of the quarterly gatherings and some of the other events we plan as well. Here is a list of some of the events we offered this past year:

- January: Welcome to the Well
- February: Welcome to the Well
- March: Our Second Annual Women’s Retreat, “Be Still and Know” Traber Center
- May: Awaken Breakfast
- October: Welcome to the Well at Linda Visco’s
- Flourish Discipleship Kick off Pot Luck Dinner
- December: Welcome to the Well at Anita Friend’s home

Other groups to be a part of to be encouraged are as follows:

- **MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers:** This meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month. These morning gatherings are where moms of pre-school children can come to a safe place, where their children are loved and cared for. The moms then are able to enjoy a breakfast and a time of spiritual refreshment as well as a time of relationship building. This is a vital ministry and we have seen women so blessed by coming through our doors into this ministry. We also do service projects for local charities and needs. We also have a blessing table each gathering where the moms can bring things to be donated to the other moms from the group.
 - ◇ Our theme verse for this season 2019-2020 is John 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that you may have life and have it to the full.” The enemy is constantly at battle in the lives of moms. My prayer is that our moms would be encouraged to combat the lives and live in the fullness of Jesus.
 - ◇ I am so excited about the opportunity to lead the MOPS team again this year. We currently have seven moms on the Steering Team: Amy Hardy (Service Coordinator), Suzi Hardy (Discussion Group Coordinator), Jenn Notary (Treasurer), Jess Donnelly (Promotion), Mary Baker (Moppets Coordinator), Katy Collura (Hospitality Coordinator), and Lisa Pyles (Mentor Mom). This year I have been able to have speakers come who are biblically sound and pour into the lives of our moms. First and foremost we want our moms who come into our program to hear about the love of Jesus. This was one of my goals this year for this ministry, that every devotion or speaker would have a spiritual message. Each one of the speakers has truly reflected that. We have about 25 moms and 15 moppet workers, and 39 moppet children. We also have 5 mentor moms (including myself). One of our biggest needs will be for a new MOPS Coordinator and/or team two to step into this leadership role for the fall of 2020-2021 season.
- **Prayer and Share Together:** Meets the 2nd Monday of the month and is led by Ruth Meier for women who are dealing with emotional issues, or have a family member who is.
- **‘Tis So Sweet Tuesdays:** This group meets once a month to study a passage of scripture together or to do a book study, and pray with and for one another. This year we concluded a book study by Nancy Leigh DeMoss on gratitude, Your Journey to Joy. In the fall we began reading through “A Shepherds Look at Psalms 23.” We currently have 19 women come out on a consistent basis. Linda Visco is the leader of this group in her home.

Well Loved:

Outreach: Just as Christ came to serve and not be served, Well Women desire to share from the water of life springing up in them. We give of our time, our availability and our possessions.

- **Stitches of Love:** This year we asked this ministry to make some things for women in our congregation who are going through chemotherapy. They blessed women with beautiful hats and prayer shawls that they knitted or crocheted. They also made dresses for little children. We are so blessed by this ministry. I know that the members of our congregation who have been hospitalized, have really loved receiving these handmade items and felt very encouraged and loved by them. Meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the home of Susan Bittner.
- **Card Ministry:** This ministry is a way we can be an encouragement to others and let them know we are praying and thinking about them. This is led by Laura Sommons.

Mentoring/ Connecting:

We kicked off this ministry this past fall with “Flourish.” We are so excited about these small groups of discipling. We want to see a “flourish” of Titus 2 women here in our church. We currently have 5 groups of ladies that meet together with one leader for each group. These groups meet at least once a month for a time of prayer and sharing and pouring the love of Christ into one another. I am so thrilled with the response for this ministry. I currently meet with one of the groups. My group leaders are as follows: Linda Visco, Diane Johnson, Veronica Horvath, Shelly Carlstrom. My prayer is that this would continue to grow here and be a vital part of women’s ministry. .

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Sommons,
Women’s Ministry Coordinator

Current Elders and Deacons

Elders and Their Terms:

2018 - 2020	2019 - 2021	2020 - 2022
Scott Holwick Chris Jones Tom Galloway	Dennis Flanagan Bob Gill	Swannie Griffin Kevin Hardy Phil Norris Byron Roth Travis Schanely

The following men will serve on our Elder Board in 2020:

Tim Gibson – Senior Pastor, Elder Board Chairman, Nominating Committee, Membership, Evangelism
 Dick Bickings – Pastor of Discipleship, Membership, Elder Board Secretary
 Dennis Flanagan – Mercy Ministries
 Tom Galloway – Pastoral Relations Committee
 Bob Gill – Kinship Groups
 Swannie Griffin – Deacon Liaison, Missions
 Kevin Hardy – Ministry Assimilation
 Jeremy Harkins – Worship Pastor, College Ministry
 Scott Holwick – Adult Elective Teacher
 Christopher Jones – Vice President, Welcome Ministry
 Phil Norris – Senior Fellowship
 Mike Notary – Youth Pastor, Property Committee
 Byron Roth – President, Finance Committee Chairman
 Travis Schanely – Prayer Ministry

Deacons and Their Terms:

2018 - 2020	2019 - 2021	2020 - 2022
Rob Christiansen Mark Hardy Kevin Kritzberger Blake Kuntz	George Hardy Mark Florentine Dan Lichtenwalner Gary Walleisa	Kamba Kalubi

The following men will serve on our Deacon Board in 2020:

Kevin Kritzberger – Deacon Board Chairman, Facilities Manager, Activities, Counting
 Rob Christiansen – Vice-Chairman, Ushers
 Mark Florentine – Kitchen/Events
 George Hardy – Caregivers, Transportation
 Mark Hardy – Technology
 Kamba Kalubi – Ordinances
 Blake Kuntz – Church Safety, Deacon Board Secretary
 Gary Walleisa – Benevolence
 Dan Lichtenwalner – Church/School Liaison Committee

We offer our thanks to Andy Meeks who served faithfully for many years as a Deacon, but did not renew this year. We are grateful for his service and will greatly miss him.

Board of Elders

Church Leadership

“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert.” Acts 20:28-31

It is a joy to serve as an Elder at Ebenezer BFC. We all realize the huge responsibility that we have to shepherd the Church of God and help lead the Church to fulfill God’s perfect will. 2019 was a great year. Here are a few highlights:

Unity: Overall, the elders have been unified both doctrinally and concerning our vision. We praise God that our men have tender hearts toward the flock and truly desire to seek the Lord’s direction in every situation.

Prayer: The elders purposefully spend quality time praying for the congregation. We also organized 3 corporate prayer meetings for the congregation to attend throughout the year.

Planning: The elders secured Horst Construction as a means of planning for the future. The goal of securing this company is to provide a master plan for our facilities to consider how we might best utilize and maximize our ministry here at 3100 Hecktown Rd. Horst came back with initial plans that are being reviewed and prayed over.

Policies: The elders put together a subcommittee this year in order to deal with legal and administrative issues. This subcommittee presented several new policies for EBFC this year including: Whistleblower, financial, social media, anti-bullying.

Visual Gospel: The elders were very concerned that the Gospel is present in our pews for everyone. Cards describing “What It Means to Be a Christian” are now in the pews at Ebenezer.

Giving: Because the Lord blessed Ebenezer with wonderful finances in 2019 and with the sale of the parsonage, the elders were led to give \$20,000 to the Forks Township Church plant, \$20,000 to the Naples Church plant, and \$20,000 to Saucon Valley BFC who just recently purchased a building.

Updating: The elders were thrilled to approve some updating in our foyer. We gave approval to the Property Committee and they have updated our foyer with new paint color, flooring, lighting, furniture, video monitors, décor, and granite countertop in the Welcome Center. We are thanking the Lord for His provision.

Shepherding: While it is difficult for our lay elders to find time, every elder is encouraged to pray and encourage the flock on a regular basis. Each elder is given a group of regular attendees and encouraged to make contact for prayer.

Church Discipline: It is always hard to discipline those you love. But the elders are committed to obeying Scripture. After many months of effort, the elders unanimously agreed to perform church discipline and remove a young man from church membership for drunkenness and unwillingness to submit to Scripture. It is with broken hearts that we continue to pray for this young man that he will return to the Lord.

Lynfield Ministry: The elders are excited to continue ministering in the Lynfield community in South Bethlehem. In order to make a more concerted effort, with the use of the Elizabeth Heyer estate grant (\$20K/year), we decided to hire Marcus Brunsetter to begin teaching and preaching in Lynfield on a more consistent basis with the effort to either create a strong campus ministry there, or, if the Lord blesses, a new church plant.

Meetings: The Elders meet monthly on the second Monday of each month. The following congregational meetings were held in 2019:

- Annual Congregational Meeting – January 27
- Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting – August 11
- Congregational Budget Meeting – December 8

It is a joy to work alongside these wonderful men and have such unity. The Lord has truly given Ebenezer wonderful shepherds. We are certainly not perfect leaders, but we are striving to seek the Lord’s will in every decision and lead in a Christ honoring manner. May the Lord be glorified in years to come and may the Gospel of Jesus Christ spread through the Lehigh Valley because of our ministry here at Ebenezer BFC.

Serving Christ,
Pastor Tim Gibson
Elder Board Chairman



Board of Deacons

Church Leadership

The Deacon Board would like to ask for your continued prayers as we serve the people of Ebenezer in our many areas of responsibility. The men have been working tirelessly to meet the needs of the church in many ways imaginable. We truly are blessed to serve the Lord in this capacity.

Deacons are responsible for the following areas of ministry: activities/sports, benevolence, caregivers, church-school liaison, community concerns, counting offering, ordinances (communion & baptisms), property, church safety, church vehicles, technology, and ushers. The deacons meet on the second Monday of every-other month (odd months), and do a lot of work and service in between meetings. Please refer to the reports from each of these areas for more details.

Lastly, we have many jobs that need to be done but lack the volunteers to assist us in completing them. If you feel like God is calling you to serve we would gladly appreciate any time that you could give. Please reach out to any of us on the Deacon Board if you feel led.

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God, in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14

For His Glory,
Kevin Kritzberger,
Chairman



Activities Committee

Deacon Ministry

The Activities committee is here to promote fun and fellowship, and in a church our size we understand that it is harder to get to know people. By planning different social and sporting events we are able to move people one step closer to each other. This in turn will promote harmony and unity amongst the church.

On the sports end of this committee we have an organized softball team and a dart baseball team. With the help of Jessie Bernhardt and her parents we were also able to launch an intramural volleyball night which meets on Thursday nights. We also have continued our partnership with "On Mission" sports for both kids' basketball and soccer programs. All of these programs are designed to have an emphasis not only on physical strengthening and sport knowledge but spiritual growth as well. We look forward to these programs growing and the impact on the lives they are touching.

There are so many new faces here at the church that we are constantly mixing up our events so that we can try to touch each and every interest that you may have. Please feel free to contact one of the members on this committee if you have any questions or ideas for an event or would like to serve on this committee.

Committee Members:

- Mike and Donna D'Imperio
- Judy Seyfried
- Rob Christiansen
- Sharon Kritzberger
- Karris Pennington
- Anmarie Jones
- Abby Weaver

For His Glory,
Kevin Kritzberger,
Chairman



Adult Electives

Discipleship Ministry

Adult Electives are our Adult classes that are offered at 10:05 Sunday mornings. On average this year we had around 100 people regularly attending these teaching sessions. Unlike Kinship Groups, that are usually focused more on relationships than teaching, the Adult Electives focus more on teaching than on relationships. It is one of the main teaching arms of Ebenezer BFC.

Your Teachers:

Pastor Dick Bickings	Chris Jones
Marcus Brunstetter	Dan Marks
Lee Ciccotelli	Rich Mastronardo
Mike Hard	Phil Norris
Kevin Hardy	John Yost
Scott Holwick	

Review of 2019:

In 2019 we offered 10 classes

Spring 2019 Jan 6—May 5	Summer 2019 May 26—Sep 8	Fall 2019 Sept 22—Dec 22
2 Peter & Jude Proverbs Marriage: What Did You Expect Evangelism	Articles of Faith	Jeremiah, part 1 Shepherding a Child's Heart Deception, Discernment, Prudence 1 & 2 Thessalonians New Believer's Class

Planning 2020:

As we go into 2020 please continue to pray throughout the year for the following:

- Additional teachers to be trained and to become leaders.
- For our teachers to continue to be diligent in their studies and faithful to the Scriptures, being empowered by the Holy Spirit, and caring for the health of the people they teach.
- For the message of the Word to penetrate the hearts of the hearers and result in changed lives to the glory of God.

Current plans include the following classes for spring 2020 (Jan 5 - May 3):

- Jeremiah, part 2
- Colossians
- New Member Class
- Fundamentals of the Faith

During 2020 we will continue to maintain multiple offerings of different levels in Bible book studies and additional topical studies. Thanks to all the teachers who diligently work to study God's Word in order to provide it to the congregation each Sunday morning.

In His Service,
Scott Holwick &
Dick Bickings,
Leaders of Adult Electives



Benevolence

Deacon Ministry

I have learned many things since becoming a Deacon one year ago and joining the Benevolence Committee. I was handed an EBFC Benevolence Fund "Policy and Procedures" outline, and then proceeded to sit back and observe from the experienced committee members how these rules and procedures were applied to a variety of requests from our congregation and non-members as well. There were two things that I noticed right away. First and foremost, was the generosity of the congregation. Secondly, the painstaking effort that the committee made to ensure that these funds were properly dispersed through meetings and email exchanges.

Last year, the congregation generously contributed and entrusted \$24,795 to the Benevolence Fund balance. In turn, through a variety of cases and requests, there was \$29,048 dispersed from the fund. Many were helped in a number of ways.

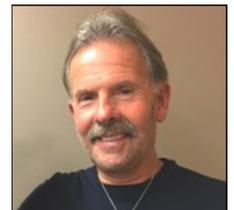
Galatians 6:10 speaks of doing good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. I also noticed since joining Benevolence that part of the prayer at every meeting has always been that those in the congregation who are in great need would approach the committee. That will continue to be the prayer as we encourage them to do so.

Earlier in the year, we partnered with a Christian Financial Counselor who we recently began utilizing and are very excited about. We are very happy to be able to offer professional advice and guidance for situations beyond our scope.

About mid-year and after much observation, I became Benevolence Chairman. It truly is a team effort from all the members down to the office staff who ensure checks and gift cards are processed and sent out in a timely manner.

I would like to thank Kevin Kritzberger, Steve and Diann McDaniel and Blake and Rachael Kuntz for welcoming my wife Cindy and I to Benevolence, and for all we have learned from all of you!

In Christ,
Gary D. Walleisa,
Chairman



Caregivers

Deacon Ministry

The Caregivers ministry strives to serve widows, widowers, single parents, and other individuals with short term or long-term needs within our church family. Such needs include, but are not limited to, home visitations, home repairs & maintenance, snow removal, yard maintenance and assistance with moving. Being made aware of the needs of the congregation is challenging. While the ministry receives many of its referrals from the pastoral and office staff, Kinship leaders, and family members, we encourage all church members to be cognizant to the needs of those around them; and to partner with the Deacons in meeting those needs.

The Deacons ask that you prayerfully consider using the gifts and talents God has given you and join us in service. If your desire is to serve the Lord in this regard, please contact the Deacon Board for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andy Meeks



Church Safety

Deacon Ministry

Providing a safe and secure place for Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church to pursue its purpose continues to be the mission.

Security

We have maintained security coverage during Sunday morning services, Sunday school, and special events. The policy has been re-written and a waiver was created to ensure all Security Team members meet a reasonable standard. The Ministry Position Description (MPD) was used and has led to the addition of new team members. We are still in need of additional volunteers. This position remains focused on maintaining a watchful eye and addressing any concerns. There were minor incidents throughout the year, but there was nothing major to report.

Fire/Other Safety

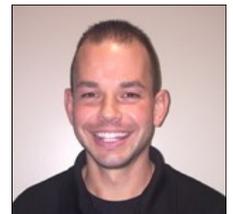
Ebenezer continued to maintain compliance with Bethlehem Township Fire Safety Codes. Additional Active Shooter training was conducted with ministry leaders. Ministry leaders and staff were advised of evacuation locations and direction for observation and planning for such a need.

Medical

All First Aid Stations were checked. The six major injury bags were checked. Training was conducted with ministry leaders on the major injury bags and the medical devices contained inside. CPR certification classes were held in October. Numerous members of the staff and ministry teams were certified in CPR. A photo sheet containing various church members who can assist in a medical emergency was created. We are still in need of additional trained volunteers to assist in medical emergencies.

Praise God for His sovereign care over the church throughout this past year! Thank you to all who have volunteered to serve in this ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Blake Kuntz, Church Safety Leader



Evangelism

Elder Ministry

This is my first full year as Chair of the Evangelism Committee. I have some amazing people serving with me and though it is something that is not always seen, Evangelism is happening.

Our purpose remains the same, to encourage, equip and help engage our congregation in evangelism for the purpose of fully discipling converts into full followers of Jesus.

To Encourage:

We still want to encourage everyone to get out and share the gospel. We have had testimonies and reminders from the pulpit of the importance of sharing your faith and how it can be done in your daily life. It is natural to have a small amount of fear but as a church we want to help show that it can be done.

To Equip:

It is the desire of the committee to equip every member at Ebenezer giving them the tools they need to adequately share the Gospel. This past year we have offered training during adult electives and were encouraged by those who attended. We plan on doing more this coming year in the form of workshops and other trainings to help everyone feel comfortable enough to share their faith.

We still have tracts available and will continue to provide them in the lobby as a tool to help with evangelism. If you are interested in learning more, please seek me out and I would be happy to help!

To Engage:

Not only do we want to equip, but we want to provide different opportunities for the congregation to actually engage in evangelism. We still have bigger events like witnessing at Musikfest, but want to do more throughout the year.

We also have other opportunities to get out there and evangelize. There are trips to the Staten Island Ferry and other outings that happen locally. We want to be more organized in scheduling time to go out together, but our main goal is to make evangelism part of our daily lives.

Each one of us has an amazing chance to share what God can do for sinners. If He has taken our hearts and transformed them, then He can and will do the same for others. He uses us as His hands and feet. We need to love those around us enough to share the good news of the gospel.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcus Brunstetter
Evangelism Chairman



Finance

Elder Ministry

As we reflect on 2019, we should all take time to thank the Lord for his provision this year. EBFC is His ministry and he has given us abundant funds to fulfill His purpose.

Total income for the year was \$1,384,251. This was \$305,621 over our planned budget of \$1,078,630. This was mainly due to the sale of the parsonage, which sold for \$251,287 and a large December 2019 offering which totaled \$160,145 (vs. a budget of \$102,988).

Our total expenditures for the year were \$1,165,853. This was \$87,223 over the planned budget of \$1,078,630. The specific areas that were over budget were as follows:

Items Over Budget:

- Church Finance (over by \$9,645) - This is mainly due to paying the full 2020 premium of Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance in 2019.
- Discipleship Ministries (over by \$1,551) - Mainly due to Student Ministry Special Event Subsidies being over-budget
- Deacon Ministries (over by \$17,857) - This was due to unbudgeted capital expenses for landscaping needed to separate the parsonage parcel from the church parcel, and \$9,472 for a new HVAC unit for Rooms 16, 18, 20.
- Missions (over by \$64,850) - Mainly due to the \$20K donation to 3 BFC churches, Saucon, Forks, & Naples.
- Evangelism (over by \$553) - Due to additional costs for mailing the Christmas Service invitations.
- Worship (over by \$1,916) - Mainly due to the September Community Weekend Service and events.

Items Under Budget:

- Congregational Care (under by \$1,414) - Overall expenses under budget.
- Compensation (under by \$5,736) - Due to lower medical expenses.
- Office Expenses (under by 1,956) - Largely due to a 1x Copier rebate incentive of \$895, and Office Supplies being under budget.

Our savings at year-end is \$900,154, an increase of \$184,953, due to the sale of the parsonage. Of those savings, \$139,978 is for designated funds. The designated funds decreased by \$33,445, primarily due to \$38,817 decrease in the Building Fund used for renovating the foyer.

As we look to 2020, we have the following goals:

- We will continue to review existing policies of EBFC and support the updating or implementing of policies for the church.
- We will continue to work with the PRC to continue with the evaluation of medical insurance options for the staff and the longer-term strategy for this benefit to our staff.

We appreciate the discipline and diligence of our ministry leaders in their spending. As we look at 2020, we pray that God continues to provide the funds He needs for His ministry and that as an Elder Board we are disciplined with the stewardship of those funds.

We also want to thank the members of the Finance and Audit committees for their time and efforts this past year.

The Finance Committee members going into 2020 are Joe Meier, Debbie Griffin, George Hardy and Byron Roth. During the year Dale Tshudy stepped down from the committee and we want to thank him for his service.

The current Audit Committee members are Marge Harris, Rachael Kuntz, Josh Gummo, and Kevin Hollshwandner. During the year, Dale and Gail Tshudy stepped down from the Audit Committee and Marge Harris will be stepping down in early 2020. A special thank you to Dale, Gail and Marge for their many years of service on the Audit Committee. We are appreciative of Josh and Kevin who joined the committee this year. We are in need of one more member to be on the audit Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Byron Roth - Chairman
Joe Meier - Treasurer



Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church

BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: FY 2019 BUDGET - FINAL - FY19 P&L

January - December 2019

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Revenue				
1100 Offerings / Gifts	1,124,874.01	1,071,100.37	53,773.64	105.02 %
1400 Interest	1,539.65	425.25	1,114.40	362.06 %
1700 Memorials	200.00	700.00	-500.00	28.57 %
1900 Bethlehem Christian School	6,050.00	6,103.95	-53.95	99.12 %
1901 Other Building Use	300.00	300.00	0.00	100.00 %
1902 Asset Sales	251,287.43		251,287.43	
Total Revenue	\$1,384,251.09	\$1,078,629.57	\$305,621.52	128.33 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$1,384,251.09	\$1,078,629.57	\$305,621.52	128.33 %
Expenditures				
10000 Congregational Care Ministries	1,366.01	2,780.00	-1,413.99	49.14 %
11000 Compensation	636,227.41	641,963.00	-5,735.59	99.11 %
2000 General Church Finance	73,940.23	64,295.00	9,645.23	115.00 %
3000 Discipleship Ministries	34,327.15	32,776.50	1,550.65	104.73 %
5000 Evangelism Ministries	8,848.39	8,295.00	553.39	106.67 %
6000 Missions	248,916.09	184,066.00	64,850.09	135.23 %
7000 Deacon Ministries	132,561.27	114,704.07	17,857.20	115.57 %
8000 Worship	11,665.99	9,750.00	1,915.99	119.65 %
9000 Office Expenses	18,043.63	20,000.00	-1,956.37	90.22 %
Payroll Expenses	-43.16		-43.16	
Total Expenditures	\$1,165,853.01	\$1,078,629.57	\$87,223.44	108.09 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$218,398.08	\$0.00	\$218,398.08	0.00%
NET REVENUE	\$218,398.08	\$0.00	\$218,398.08	0.00%

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET VS. PRIOR YEAR

As of December 31, 2019

	TOTAL			
	AS OF DEC 31, 2019	AS OF DEC 31, 2018 (PY)	CHANGE	% CHANGE
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
18000 Branch Banking & Trust	467,297.09	548,831.12	-81,534.03	-14.86 %
18002 BB&T Certificates of Deposit	200,872.75	67,855.85	133,016.90	196.03 %
19000 M&T Bank Savings	0.00	93,138.63	-93,138.63	-100.00 %
19001 M&T Bank Checking	30,375.67	5,375.67	25,000.00	465.06 %
19002 M&T Money Market	201,608.51		201,608.51	
Total Bank Accounts	\$900,154.02	\$715,201.27	\$184,952.75	25.86 %
Total Current Assets	\$900,154.02	\$715,201.27	\$184,952.75	25.86 %
TOTAL ASSETS	\$900,154.02	\$715,201.27	\$184,952.75	25.86 %
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities				
100 Payroll Liabilities	0.00	461.01	-461.01	-100.00 %
2111 Direct Deposit Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	
901 Building Fund	29,733.11	68,549.64	-38,816.53	-56.63 %
902 Capital Improvement Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	
903 Transportation Fund	913.00	488.00	425.00	87.09 %
904 Scholarships	3,858.44	3,184.44	674.00	21.17 %
905 Faith Promise	29,729.30	35,879.73	-6,150.43	-17.14 %
907 Benevolence Fund	13,816.48	17,380.75	-3,564.27	-20.51 %
908 Music Fund	5,168.01	279.45	4,888.56	1,749.35 %
909 Heyer Trust Fund	48,621.55	44,078.32	4,543.23	10.31 %
911 Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	0.00	0.00 %
912 Run for the Children	0.00	1,462.12	-1,462.12	-100.00 %
914 Health Care Accounts	3,137.77	1,659.53	1,478.24	89.08 %
915 Youth Summer Missions	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$148,457.82	\$181,903.15	\$ -33,445.33	-18.39 %
Total Current Liabilities	\$148,457.82	\$181,903.15	\$ -33,445.33	-18.39 %
Total Liabilities	\$148,457.82	\$181,903.15	\$ -33,445.33	-18.39 %
Equity				
1000 Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00	0.00 %
900 Retained Earnings	941,176.92	988,024.88	-46,847.96	-4.74 %
Net Revenue	218,398.08	-46,847.96	265,246.04	566.18 %
Total Equity	\$751,696.20	\$533,298.12	\$218,398.08	40.95 %
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$900,154.02	\$715,201.27	\$184,952.75	25.86 %

Kinship Groups

Discipleship Ministry

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-47 ESV

The purpose of the Kinship program is for each group to be a microcosm of Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church. Kinship groups provide smaller informal gatherings for growing in our faith, and spending time in fellowship with one another. Goals are to nurture, fellowship, worship, care, train, serve, and grow in the knowledge of our Savior. Kinship strives to take various people with different experiences and backgrounds and assimilate them into one body and one faith.

In 2019, the Lord has continued to bless and move this program forward in a powerful way. Efforts were focused this past year around the key areas below:

- To better inform the congregation about the Kinship Group Ministry through various means, not just in September, but all year long through electronic/web media (continued presence on the TV wall monitor in the Welcome Center, website/app sign-up). Website/app sign-up has enabled quick assimilation of all those interested into appropriate Kinship groups.
- Creation of a half-day Kinship Shepherds' Conference that was successfully launched on September 7th at the church to better equip Kinship Leaders. This was attended by 24 men (both current Kinship shepherds and potential future shepherds). Plans are to make this an annual event.
- To raise up new Kinship group shepherds/leaders, and host homes, as needed
- To continue to develop more Kinship group shepherds/leaders from within existing groups
- To help shepherds/leaders stay current on issues important to them through a variety of means (Shepherds' Conference, one-on-one meetings, and through electronic media).
- To focus on making Kinship a commitment within every Kinship group

The Lord blessed the program with increased Kinship leadership. Dan Marks became our newest Kinship shepherd this past year and Scott Holwick has returned as a co-shepherd with Marcus Brunstetter. Unfortunately, one Kinship group was lost at the beginning of the season because of decreased attendance due to health issues. Over this past season 42 adults and 23 children were placed, but as is always the case, a number of people left groups due to various reasons (life changes, moving out of the area, death, etc.). The challenges that presented in 2019 were met with better means to assimilate our people into Kinship groups, new leadership, and successful placement of those interested in participating in the Kinship program. Praise the Lord for His provisions!

Below are some key facts about our 2019 Kinship groups:

1) List of Kinship Shepherds/Co-Shepherds

Wayne Batten	Bob Gill
Pastor Dick Bickings/Rich Mastronardo	Kevin Hardy
Justen Blackstone	Kerry Hickok
Andy Brimer/Dan Hutchinson	Chris Jones/Kevin Gasho
Marcus Brunstetter/Scott Holwick	Dan Marks
Dennis Flanagan	Laszlo Onody
Tom Galloway	Bob Penchick
Pastor Tim Gibson	Byron Roth
	Bob Smith (previous shepherd)

2) Currently there are: 17 total Kinship groups · 9 groups with children/8 groups without children · Total of 289 people in groups (205 adults and 84 children), a 10% increase over 2018 · Breakdown average: à 12 adults per Kinship group à 9 children per Kinship group with children.

Plans moving forward in 2020 will focus on continuing website/media improvements, increasing Kinship ministry awareness throughout the congregation, continuing to hold the annual half-day Kinship Shepherds' Conference, and developing a survey for our shepherds and participants to help improve the Kinship ministry as a whole.

I would like to personally thank the Kinship shepherds for their diligence and vision for this most important ministry! I also want to thank my wife, Laurie, for her invaluable help and support. My continuing prayer is that more shepherds would be raised up, additional groups would be formed, and every member or regular attendee at Ebenezer Church would be involved in a Kinship group in order to be loved and cared for in a more personal way.



Respectfully Submitted, Bob Gill, Elder - Kinship Ministry

Kitchen/Events

Deacon Ministry

The outdoor picnic was well received. We fed everyone in a reasonable amount of time. We had no noticeable problems that I have been made aware of. We were a little heavy on the amount of chicken but it all went to good use and there was no waste. Next year we will have a different menu to allow for variety. The Thanksgiving Celebration with dinner and testimonies was also well attended. The function ran smoothly and we had enough food for all to enjoy. Everyone in the church does a great job of bringing in wonderful food. It's enjoyable to hear the stories behind some of the family dishes.

Looking forward to 2020:

- We will be updating the main refrigerator in the kitchen. The current unit is very old and unable to meet our needs during high capacity functions. If we replace it now, it will serve as a wonderful back up unit for large functions.
- I will be investigating a better coffee system that will be able to handle the needs of our church more efficiently and cost effectively.
- The Sunday fellowship continues to grow. People are fellowshiping and, for the most part, it has gone very smoothly. I am expecting more participation of snacks being brought in. This will allow for more variety and reduce the monthly cost to the church. I am working on getting an A-B team set up to alleviate Leslie and me from having to do set-up and clean-up every week.
- Building a team is going to be a huge focus for me in 2020. This has already happened passively, but I want to have it be more structured and scheduled from here forward. If anyone is interested I would love to talk with you.
- The issue of not allowing coffee in the sanctuary will be stressed in 2020. This is an important area of concern. The sanctuary is a place of worship and needs to be kept in good condition. It is a testimony issue as well. Also there are no cup holders in the pews (and there should not be) so empty cups and spilled coffee become an issue. The opportunity to have coffee beforehand has been provided so this hopefully will be adhered to.

Looking forward to a great 2020. I welcome any feedback or suggestions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Florentine, Chairman



Liaison - Church/School

Deacon Ministry

Ebenezer is the host campus for Bethlehem Christian School's pre-K thru 5th grade students. BCS *"exists to assist parents in their responsibility of training their children by providing a complete educational program that is Biblically sound, Christ-centered and of excellent academic standards."* and committed to *"equipping students for Christian living by instilling Biblical principles of self-discipline, individual responsibility, personal integrity and good citizenship."* Through the use of our facilities, these children are being taught the Word of God and it provides a way to introduce many families to the ministries of Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church.

The Liaison Committee consists of several members from both EBFC and BCS. The primary goal is to keep open communication between the church/school and prayerfully make decisions concerning the use of the campus. In July of 2018, Dr. Brenda Hillman effectively became the new Head of School. She now serves on the committee and brings a wealth of knowledge, passion and experience with her.

Enrollment has increased for the 2019-2020 school year. The committee asks for continued prayer that more families will seek to enroll their child(ren) into an atmosphere devoted to God's Word.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel Lichtenwalner,
Chairman



Library

Discipleship Ministry

The Growth Garden Library is a wonderful and underutilized resource for our church family. We are open and available every Sunday (with exception of Christmas, Easter and outdoor service). The library materials (books, audio books and DVDs) are available to all regular Ebenezer church attendees. Our shelves are busting at the seams, thanks to the tireless help of Sarah Hardy and Ann Greenzweig, as they have acquired, read and processed lots of new and current material. We stock thousands of fiction and non-fiction books for both adults and kids. Many books are also read to ensure they are appropriate to biblical values.

Our Summer Reading Program had an overwhelming 37 sign up and 20 actual participants. Of the 20 who participated, each received a Rita's gift card. Zack Donnelly our program winner received a \$35 gift card to CBD and recommends his favorite books/DVDs throughout the year to be displayed on our library table.

2019 continued with a recommended review in many of our weekly bulletins by Ann Greenzweig. You never know what you may find... kids book, adult fiction/non-fiction or video. We are very grateful and praise God for the blessing and healing he has bestowed on Ann this year. We all continue to pray for Ann's continued recovery and health.

This year we welcome our newest additions, June Robinson, who you will see in on our 3rd shift, Sandy Barron, and Chris Kanzler our newest volunteer. We are always looking to welcome additional volunteers to assist in the library between services, typically 1 or 2 Sundays a month. If this sounds like a ministry you might be interested in, or would like to inquire about, please see Nancy Murphy, or you can stop by the library and talk to one of our wonderful librarians; Sandy Barron, Lois Batten, Jessica Donnelly, Ann Greenzweig, Sarah Hardy, Patti Gallagher, Deb Griffin, Jacque Prebula, Barbara Ruppert, Ian Thompson, Heather Thompson, or Elizabeth Hutchinson.

Please come by and check us out (Some pun intended!). You will not be disappointed.

To God be the Glory,
Nancy Murphy,
Chairperson



Membership and Discipline

Elder Ministry

The Lord blessed in 2019. We performed 3 membership classes. We added 19 members to the flock this year. Following is a summary of this year and past years:

Year	Membership at End of the Year ¹	New Members Added	Members Dropped	Average Attendance ²	Baptisms
2019	379	19	14	540	19
2018	374	25	20	542	15
2017	364	19	56	545	18
2016	420	44	22	511	24
2015	398	39	37	525	33
2014	399	28	19	534	11
2013	396	47	76	546	41

Year	Baby Dedications	Weddings	Funerals	First-time Visitors	Visitor Letters Sent
2019	4	2	5	439	91
2018	11	7	6	391	177
2017	2	11	9	507	182
2016	5	3	6	333	106
2015	1	2	9	444	219
2014	10	3	7	459	117
2013	7	4	3	494	80

¹ Does not include children since the minimum age for membership is 16 years

² Does include children

Weddings:

- Scott Slater & Erin Sharpe on 2/7/19 by Tim Gibson
- Seth Freeman & Veray Darby on 8/3/19 by Jeremy Harkins

Deaths (of Members or Regular Attendees):

- Claudie McPhearson, 03/01/2019
- Bob Smith, 11/22/2019

This brings our membership total to 379 at the end of 2019. We had a drop in 14 members for the year. Loss is mainly due to deaths, moving out of the area, and transfer of membership. There was only 1 church discipline issue resulting in a dropped membership. We continue to pray that he, along with others, would return to the Lord.

It is the role of the Elders to continue to shepherd the flock of God here at Ebenezer. Each Elder has been given a group of members and attendees with whom to keep in contact. Our hearts' desire is to provide pastoral care to every attendee at Ebenezer. This is to ensure that every true believer will continue to walk in the truth and persevere to the end, so that when we stand before the Lord we will all hear "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Serving the Lord,
Pastor Tim Gibson



Men's Ministry

Discipleship Ministry

The Men's Ministry exists primarily to disciple men to become devoted followers of Jesus Christ. In order to do this, we focus our efforts on training men to be the godly leaders and examples that Christ commanded in our homes, jobs, society, and church. This training is done in the following ways:

- Bible Studies – Weekly Men's bible studies were held throughout 2018:
 - ◇ Tuesday evenings/Saturday mornings – "The Bethel Series" (for men & women), taught by Jason Lee (Tuesday), and Dick Bickings (Saturday).
 - ◇ Thursday mornings – 6:15 am, taught/facilitated by various men in the group
 - ◇ Thursday mornings – 9:00 am, taught/facilitated by various men in the group
 - ◇ Saturday mornings – 8:00 am, taught by Marcus Brunstetter
- Prayer Group – a Saturday morning group set aside specifically for men to get together and pray...for the homes, marriages, children, wives, church, country, etc. We began with a passage of scripture (usually the Psalms), and used it as a pattern to pray.
- Breakfasts – Well-attended men's breakfasts were held quarterly, providing fellowship, teaching, worship time, and prayer. A faithful crew of men cooked (directed by Bob Guadagnino) and set up (directed by Jim Travisano) for this event very early each Saturday morning. The worship time was led mostly by Randy Shelly. The theme of this year's teaching time was entitled "**Sound Men**," which was a study of the book of Titus, where Paul, writing to Titus, defines practical soundness (spiritual hygiene). These were the topics, "**Sound** in Faith," "**Sound** in Doctrine," "**Sound** in Sanctification," and "**Sound** in Submission." We were privileged this year to have Marcus Brunstetter teach two of the sessions.

Praise the Lord that Marcus Brunstetter has been deeply involved in both discipling men and planning events. We plan to have a local men's seminar in April 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Bickings,
Pastor of Discipleship



Mercy Ministry

Elder Ministry

John 15:12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

James 1:27 "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

I want to make sure that our senior saints' spiritual and physical needs are being met, and that as a church we are reaching out to them. I am very thankful for those who help on a regular basis: Jean Collins has a group of people who send cards to our Senior Saints. Vickie Zmarzley goes to Fellowship Manor on a regular basis visiting our Senior Saints there. The helpers and saints are prayed for regularly.

There is a list of Senior Saints (Shut-ins) available, and we are encouraging church members and Kinship Groups to reach out and connect with these Senior Saints. I am looking to expand this ministry. Anyone interested in helping please contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dennis Flanagan, Chairman



Ministry Assimilation

Elder Ministry

If For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.
Romans 12:4-6

I'm continually thankful for the unity that we have in the body of Christ while also celebrating the uniqueness of how each member is gifted based on God's grace! The vision of ministry assimilation is to equip and encourage believers to be faithfully serving with their God-given passions and spiritual gifts to glorify God and edify others in our local body. (Eph. 4) It continues to be a blessing to work through this biblical view of servanthood throughout the year with brothers and sisters in Christ within our congregation!

The Saved to Serve class continues to be offered twice a year – once in late spring and again in the fall on Wednesday nights. After the classes are over, we meet with each attendee one-on-one. Lord willing, this time serves as a good catalyst to develop ideas and direction for some possible next steps in serving and/or it affirms where individuals have already been serving. We then connect them with ministry leaders in the areas that they're potentially interested in serving. We were blessed to work through this process with about 15 individuals, many of whom are already faithfully serving. In addition to meeting with individuals from the specific classes, I continue to be available on Wednesday nights throughout the school year to offer others encouragement and guidance in the areas of serving at Ebenezer.

We continued working this year on further developing the ministry volunteer needs packet which was updated and published in the spring and again in the fall. The packets include a list of the current ministry leaders at Ebenezer and ministry position descriptions (MPDs). MPDs can be an effective tool in helping to properly invite someone to serve. The more they know about a volunteer opportunity and what ways they're committing to serve upfront the more likely they will feel properly equipped to serve. A big thanks to many of the ministry leaders who helped to continue crafting/updating these descriptions for our various volunteer positions. This packet has served as an effective tool in handing out to the congregation, to new members, and also as a reference in working through the Saved to Serve process on ways to serve in our local body.

Goals for 2020:

- 1) Continue to be available at Ebenezer to teach the Saved to Serve class in the Spring and Fall.
- 2) Develop and implement a plan to perform a church-wide assimilation audit. Seek to evaluate who's actively serving and then seek to graciously encourage and equip those who aren't serving to step forward in faithful service.
- 3) Continue to connect and follow-up with previous participants to check-in/encourage them as they seek to be faithful in serving.
- 4) Continue to connect with ministry leaders to evaluate ministry needs and develop MPDs for those ministry positions. Update volunteer needs packets and distribute throughout the year as appropriate.
- 5) Develop ways to help us be more active and faithful in prayer over the ministry needs of our church.
- 6) Ramp up a "Saved to Serve" presence on our website.

One of my continued hopes, as a church body, is that we would give a higher priority to those things which we do best, being led by the Spirit, as good stewards of the grace of God (1 Pet. 4:10). If each part of the body does this, it's a wonderful picture of what Paul talks about in 1 Cor. 12. Pray that, as we worship our Lord and Savior on a daily basis, we will continue to grow in love and service to one another at Ebenezer!

Thanks to, Andy Brimer, Jacque' Prebula, Bob & Linda Visco, and Kristy Hard for their willingness to serve on the team.

In His Service,
Kevin Hardy



Missions Committee

Elder Ministry

Committee Members:

Swannie Griffin (Chairman), Wayne Batten, Doug Chen, Betsy Calwonsen, Karen Coldren, Shelley Penchick and Tom Carlstrom

Committee Meetings:

The committee meets once a month on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. Other special meetings are held as required to meet deadlines for specific projects.

2019 Missionary Support Through Budget Giving:

Bible Fellowship Church Board of Missions:

BFCBOM Administrative Support.....	3,000.00
Elias, John and Karen – Lehigh Valley Muslim Outreach Facilitators, BFC.....	4,000.00
Head, Jim and Lynne – World Team, NC, Pastoral Care Coordinator.....	7,600.00
Istrate, Daniel and Ana, Yugoslavian Evangelistic Society, Romania.....	6,000.00
Knaub, Kimberly – Africa Inland Mission, Tanzania.....	6,000.00
Koval, Kyle and Rebecca – Team Expansion, Italy.....	5,400.00
Messick, Matt and Kristy – World Venture, Ecuador.....	8,200.00
Missionary Retirement Fund.....	2,680.00
Moyer, Duane and Joetta – BFC, Director, Board of Missions.....	2,800.00
Pastor Scholarship Initiative, Scott and Moffit – Africa.....	2,800.00
Reyes, Art and Vicki – TEAM, Mexico.....	7,400.00
Riddell, David and Rebecca – World Team, International Director, France.....	7,480.00
Solt, Lillian – United World Mission, Costa Rica.....	7,400.00
Weinhofer, Colby and Theresa – Pioneers, Japan.....	3,000.00
Widman, Scott and Joanna – BCM, Northern Ireland.....	3,000.00
Zikanovi, Ondra and Melissa – TEAM, Czech Republic.....	3,400.00

Bible Fellowship Church Agencies:

Church Extension Ministries: General Dept. Support.....	3,600.00
Brad Boyer, Cape May Courthouse, NJ.....	5,000.00
Tim Zuck, Forks Township, PA.....	18,200.00
Jason Filbert, Naples, FL.....	5,000.00
Ethnic Church Plant.....	1,600.00
Fellowship Homes.....	3,600.00
BFC Life Committee (formerly Pinebrook Bible Conference).....	3,600.00
Victory Valley Camp.....	3,600.00

Special Missions: (Not from the BFC Board of Missions)

Bovard, John and Joanie – Lehigh Valley Youth for Christ.....	2,300.00
Bright Hope (Pregnancy Support Centers).....	4,800.00
Child Evangelism Fellowship, Lehigh Valley (organization).....	2,000.00
Henry, David & Lisa – Child Evangelism Fellowship, Lehigh Valley.....	2,500.00
Fodale, Mark and Sharon – DiscipleMakers, Lehigh Valley.....	2,250.00
Hanna, Ed and Christy – CRU, Lehigh Valley.....	6,000.00
Kay, Matt and Erin – CRU, Lehigh Valley.....	1,800.00
Napier, Al and Nancy – Navigators, Italy.....	8,300.00
Poysti, David and Ute – European Christian Mission, Germany.....	3,400.00
Raughley, Luke – World Impact, Newark, NJ.....	6,000.00
Russian Christian Radio.....	3,400.00
Trafford, Dan & Candace – DiscipleMakers, Lehigh Valley.....	2,500.00
TransWorld Radio.....	2,800.00
Truth for Women, Lehigh Valley.....	2,400.00
Whylings, Max & Jen – Haycock Camping Ministries.....	3,000.00

Missions Giving through Faith Promise:

Sponsor a Refugee (Greece Short-Term Project) by John Elias	1,000.00
Sewing Materials for pillowcase dress project	106.91
Child Evangelism Fellowship (support for David Henry)	2,000.00
Church Extension Ministries – Ramos Car Fund	5,000.00
CEDCAS (Lillian Solt-Costa Rica) for school supplies and/or food project	2,000.00
Samaritan’s Purse for flood/disaster relief in U.S.A.	2,000.00
CRU – 200 Bibles for Muslim Outreach	1,350.00
Allentown Rescue Mission	1,000.00
Child Evangelism Fellowship Carabina Project	500.00
Church Extension Ministries (Summer Ten) Cape May, NJ & Naples, FL	5,000.00
Joy in Jesus Ministries (Dan Allen – building churches in India)	6,000.00
Ed & Christy Hanns, CRU – unexpected medical expenses	4,500.00
Dan Istrate, Romania – for 1st edition of Greek Translation of NT Textbook	500.00
Colby & Theresa Weinhofer , Japan– for 3 months of support shortfall	900.00
Mark & Shannon Fodale, DiscipleMakers– for 4 months of support shortfall	2,400.00
Ondra & Melissa Zikanovi, Czech Republic– support for new pastor training	2,900.00
Jim & Lynne Head, WorldTeam – for 3 months of support shortfall	1,000.00
Duane Moyer, BFCBOM Director – cross-cultural church plant training trip	1,000.00
CEDCAS (Lillian Solt-Costa Rica) dental, eye & ear exams for children	2,000.00
Victory Valley Camp – new truck fund	2,000.00
Ken & Debbie Rohrer, Northeast Awana Representative – support	500.00
Forks Community Church – for new venue	5,000.00
TOTAL	\$48,656.91

Missions Giving through Miracle Month:

- 2018 Miracle Month offerings of \$25,830.73 were given in December 2018 & January 2019, \$25,833.80 was distributed in January 2019.
- 2019 Miracle Month offerings of \$20,301.11 will be distributed in January 2020.

Missions Emphasis 2019– March 3-10

March 3:

- ◇ Morning Worship Services – Rev. Glenn Felty, Cedar Crest BFC
- ◇ Combined Adult /Teen Elective – Pastor Julio Jiminez– Dominican Republic
- ◇ Combined Class for Grades 1-5 – Duane Moyer, BFC Board of Missions Chairman

March 10:

- ◇ Morning Worship Services – Luke Raughley, World Impact, Newark, NJ
- ◇ Combined Adult /Teen Elective – Ondra & Melissa Zikanovi, Czech Republic
- ◇ Combined Class for Grades Kindergarten-5 – David & Lisa Henry, LV Child Evangelism

Missions Special Speakers 2019 (in addition to Missions Emphasis)

- Adult Elective & Seder Meal - April 14 – Amy Downey, Tzedakah Ministries, Texas
- Adult Elective May 12 – Jon Merwarth, Bright Hope Pregnancy Centers
- Adult Elective June 23 – Art & Vickie Reyes, Mexico
- Adult Elective September 1 – Kyle & Rebecca Koval, Italy

Missionary Prayer Time - continues in the morning worship services on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month to help the congregation know our missionaries.

Additional Ministries

- Pastors Tim Gibson & Tim Zuck were sent to visit and encourage Pastor Jason Filbert at a BFC Church Plant in Naples, FL
- International Student activity and luncheon in March.
- In September the Board of Elders decided to distribute from the sale of the parsonage \$20,000 to each of three church plants for rent/building needs: Forks Community Church, Covenant Bible Fellowship in Naples, FL and Saucon Community Church. An additional \$5,000 was given to Forks Community Church, which had been promised to them in 2018 for a new venue, when found.



Respectfully submitted
Swannie Griffin, Chairman

Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC)

Elder Ministry

In 2019 Tom Galloway took over for Patrick Barry as the PRC Chairman. Phil Norris was asked to join the PRC and agreed to join this important ministry.

The PRC's main role is to provide Human Resources services for Ebenezer's staff. Throughout 2019 the PRC has remained committed to praying for our pastoral and ministry staff and their families along with providing them ongoing support through encouragement. Additionally, the PRC is dedicated to an ongoing process of coming alongside the pastoral team to ensure their well-being both physically and spiritually. The PRC has met several times during 2019 to discuss ways to encourage the pastoral and ministry staff.

The PRC Board is dedicated and unified in its efforts to lead and minister at Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church and look forward to continuing the important ministry in 2020.

Pastoral Relations Committee: Dennis Flanagan, Phil Norris, Byron Roth, Thomas Galloway

Sincerely,
Thomas Galloway,
PRC Chairman



Property Committee

Deacon Ministry

Property committee members: George Hardy, Kevin Kritzberger, Otis Powell, Wayne Batten, Mike Notary and Jonny Fonterosa

Some Of The Projects Completed This Year Were:

- Parking lots and driveway were crack-filled, seal-coated and had line striping done.
- All of the hallway lighting was replaced with new LED fixtures. LED fixtures were also installed on the emergency backup lighting in the hallways by the BCS Office and Rooms 10-20.
- Foyer and lobby renovations were made including new flooring, new lighting, ceiling and wall paint, furniture, door hardware, welcome center redesign and the addition of two video monitors.
- The fences around the retention pond and playground area were repaired with some sections being replaced as needed.
- Sale of the parsonage was completed on May 16th.
- Trees were replaced around the retention pond as required by the township for the sale of the parsonage.
- Landscaping work to the islands in the parking lot has been completed. The grass was replaced with some shrubs, trees and river stone.

Future Capital Projects May Include:

- Replace the HVAC units in the foyer, rooms 12-14, and BCS hallway
- Replace the South Fellowship hall windows.
- Replace the Fellowship hall roofing panels and shingles when needed.
- Replacement of the original windows on the east side of the lobby and nursery area and also the north side of the building BCS library and classrooms 4-5.
- Expand the parking lot when needed due to growth.

We greatly appreciate all those who signed up to take care of the various flowerbeds. It was a tremendous help and they looked great.

I would like to thank the volunteers who helped Kevin Kritzberger and the property committee throughout the year with the many hours of donated labor to help maintain and improve our building and grounds.

I would also like to thank the committee members who served with me this year on the property committee. It was a pleasure working with you.

Respectfully submitted,
George Hardy
Property Committee Chairman



Senior Fellowship

Discipleship Ministry

Senior Fellowship is a ministry that seeks to disciple senior adults 55+ through:

- Worship – attend, participate, or sponsor worship events in our local church and in our denomination
- Fellowship – meet together to eat, study God’s Word, pray, and share together in the issues that affect us
- Service – become involved in various ministries within the church and our community

Senior Fellowship seeks to activate the seniors in our local church to:

- Use our spiritual gifts to grow this local body of believers
- Use our years of wisdom and walk with the Lord to mentor younger men and women
- Interact inter-generationally to do various service projects that promote the love of Christ

Our monthly meetings (usually on the fourth Thursday of the month) included a time of fellowship while we ate our bag lunches and shared desserts, a devotional time, shared prayer requests and prayed. Attendance varied from four to nineteen and those who attended seemed to enjoy the fellowship with one another. The following were the special features:

- January: DVD on Gladys Aylward (missionary to China)
- February: (snowed out)
- March: Senior Life Representative spoke
- April: Medicare Representative for Aspire spoke
- May: DVD on Richard Wurmbbrand (Romanian pastor who was imprisoned)
- June: helped with VBS
- September: DVD on William Booth (Salvation Army)
- October: Brain storming ideas for future meetings
- November: attended Hymn Sing at Coopersburg BFC
- December: Joined Emmaus BFC to hear concert of Lehigh Valley Pops Orchestra

We went to Hymn Sings at Pinebrook in April, May, June, and September. We enjoyed singing the old hymns and great luncheons provided by the Pinebrook staff. The BFC is now moving the Hymn Sings to BFC churches and we attended the November Hymn Sing at Coopersburg BFC.

The Emmaus BFC has a very large active senior ministry and they have invited us to attend some of their programs. In December the seniors went to hear the Lehigh Valley Pops Orchestra and had a great time of fellowship and a great meal! In January we plan to join them to hear Dr. Henry Smith, a Biblical Archeologist.

The Seniors have helped in ministering to shut-ins, Vacation Bible School, packing boxes for Operation Christmas Child, and various ministries of the church.

We are looking forward to going to Sight and Sound to see Esther and enjoy a meal at Shady Maple this spring.

John Mead has found it necessary to step down from leadership in the Senior Fellowship and we greatly miss his involvement!

We hope you can join us on Thursday, January 23 as we join the Emmaus BFC in hearing Dr. Henry Smith, a Biblical archaeologist. This is a 10 am meeting and lunch is provided for a suggested \$5 donation. A van will leave the church at 9 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phil Norris, Leader



Technology

Property Committee Ministry

Responsibilities of the Technology Committee include maintaining the wired and wireless networks, purchase, deployment and troubleshooting of EBFC's hardware and software, and upkeep and hosting (by Kim White) of EBFC's Website, aplaceforyou.org.

In 2019...

Hardware & Infrastructure:

Windows Server, 20 workstations, 3 WiFi Thermostats and HVAC controller, 4 Chromecasts; Router, 6 Wireless Access Points, Multiple Switches

- Purchased and Installed a replacement desktop workstation for the Sound Room Projection: Dell Optiplex
- Purchased and installed Chromecast Ultra (4k) to Youth Room TV.
- Purchased a replacement desktop workstation for the Youth Room: Dell Optiplex
- Purchased a replacement Server: Dell PowerEdge.
- Purchased replacement TV for Youth Room in July.
- A Cisco Meraki WAP was installed below the drop ceiling in the entry to the sanctuary, to provide better WiFi coverage in the foyer, library and Room 2.
- Reconfigured Pastors' MacBooks to a new Apple TimeMachine backup location (previous location HDD failed).

Software:

- Techsoup.org Purchases
 - ◇ Purchased and installed Adobe Acrobat Reader Pro on the Finance workstation.
 - ◇ Microsoft Server Essentials OS
 - ◇ Microsoft Office 2019 (Windows and Mac versions)
 - ◇ Microsoft Windows 10 Pro
- Upgraded eleven workstations to Windows 10 Pro.

Special thanks for their efforts in 2019 go to:

- Kim White as she continues to maintain and host aplaceforyou.org.
- Pastor Dick Bickings for his many hours designing, building and maintaining the Ebenezer Mobile APP (now on iPhone and Android), as well as his time spent maintaining the church database.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Hardy,
Chairman, Technology



Transportation Committee

Deacon Ministry

EBFC owns two 15 passenger vehicles:

- 1) Mini-Bus [2008 Ford E-350 Super Duty XLT Omnibus, by Eldorado National]
- 2) Van [2011 Ford E-350 Super Duty XLT].

Use of the church vehicles in 2019 was slightly less than in 2018; the number of rental vans required in 2018 remained level. Rental vehicles are used (in addition to EBFC's vehicles) when the ministry is in need of transportation which requires more seating than EBFC's vehicles provide, and or when it is impractical for multiple volunteers' vehicles to be driven.

Thanks to Kevin Kritzberger for his help with vehicle maintenance/upkeep, and Swannie Griffin and Fred Parris for serving as our Driver Trainers in 2019.

Mark Hardy,
Transportation Chairman



Ushers

Deacon Ministry

The Usher Ministry serves Ebenezer during Sunday morning worship services as well as other special services throughout the year, including holidays and outside services. Our ushers welcome guests and regular attendees, provide information and address needs that arise during a service. Some of our main duties are to help people get seated, collect the weekly offering, collect the monthly Benevolence offering, serve communion, and take an attendance count. The ministry currently has 30 men and 3 junior ushers committed to serving the Lord by serving our congregation. It is a blessing to serve alongside these volunteers!

We still have a need for new ushers, especially during the second service. Ushering is a great opportunity to serve, meet the church community, as well as welcome newcomers. If you would like to be part of this ministry please contact one of the Head Ushers or myself, and I will get back to anyone interested.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rob Christiansen



Young Adult Ministry (YACS)

Discipleship Ministry

This past year was a year of transition in YACS. Our study during the spring was on Israel. We took several weeks where we looked at God's covenant with Israel, the history of Israel, and what Israel is today. It was a very fruitful and beneficial study. During the winter and spring of 2019 we saw the number of people attending our study decline. We did have our usual winter retreat up at SPADE Inn where we spent the weekend studying God's Word and fellowshiping with each other. We also held our annual beach trip at Ocean Grove. During the summer of 2019, the YACS leadership team came together and prayed about the future of the ministry. We came to the conclusion that, due to low attendance, YACS as a ministry would not continue in the fall of 2019. Instead, we have transitioned into hosting a Kinship Group at our home.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Marks



Welcome Committee

Elder Ministry

“Therefore welcome another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” Romans 15:7

The goal of the welcome ministry is to warmly receive visitors to our church and represent the love of Christ to them. There are two parts to this ministry: Welcoming and Visitor Follow-up.

Welcoming involves greeting and the Welcome Center. We have continued the practice of greeting one another in the service before the music, as a way to recognize and welcome visitors on Sunday morning. This has proven to be a great way to meet and welcome visitors to our church in a winsome and comforting way. The Welcome Center provides a central location for information about our church and its ministries. We have decided that it is advantageous to have someone remain behind the desk as well as people out front greeting. Many visitors have utilized the welcome center to find out more about the church and receive a visitor packet.

We have a team that consists of ~22 Greeters who serve faithfully once monthly, prior to and following each service and during the Sunday school hour, helping others feel welcome, orienting them toward classes, making introductions, and offering information about current ministries and programs. We have increased the number of greeters this year which is helpful in fulfilling our ministry. In 2019 the addition of Jennie Flicker as Head Greeter has been a tremendous blessing to our ministry. As head greeter she has recruited new members and helps to remind and encourage the greeting team.

The other part of welcoming is visitor follow-up. Once someone has come to visit our church, it is important to follow-up that visit with some form of contact. The contact can be in the form of a letter, a phone call or a personal visit. It is a great way to welcome visitors and meet the needs of those who have come to our church and help them feel loved. Currently we have two people who faithfully serve in this ministry.

Another facet of the welcoming ministry is the Newcomer Luncheon. The Newcomer Lunch meets the 4th Sunday of every month from 12:45-1:45. We have made a commitment that we will meet every month even if no one has signed up in advance. Most months we still have good attendance with several people deciding to come at the last minute. We have had more people attend and also have had more Elders stop in to meet the attendees. We had the privilege of hosting around 80 newcomers at our luncheons this year. This will continue to be an important part of the welcome ministry as a way for visitors to get information and feel welcomed. The luncheon allows visitors to meet the Pastor, church members and other new attendees in an informal setting to find out more about our church and have their questions answered.

There is a need for people who feel called to this ministry. We anticipate another great year of welcoming and greeting visitors to our church, I welcome any suggestions for ways to better engage and welcome the visitors to Ebenezer.

In Christ's Service,
Chris Jones

